

## Meaningful Use for Eligible Professionals - Medicaid

### Overview

On February 17, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* (ARRA). The law outlines incentive programs under Medicare and Medicaid for eligible professionals (EPs) and hospitals that adopt and demonstrate meaningful use of electronic health records (EHRs), among other things. EPs may participate in either the Medicare or Medicaid program and are allowed to change participation from one to the other, only once. The Medicaid incentive program is voluntarily offered by the States. Eligibility for these incentives is defined in the law and is based on the individual provider, not the practice. EPs cannot be hospital based. Medicaid EPs include:

- Physicians
- Nurse Practitioners
- Dentists
- Certified nurse-midwives
- Physician assistants working in a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Rural Health Clinic (RHC) managed by a physician assistant

### Requirements for Participation

- EPs must have a National Provider Identifier (NPI)
- EPs must use certified EHR technology
- Medicaid EPs must meet one of the following patient volume thresholds:
  - A minimum Medicaid patient volume of 30 percent; or
  - For pediatricians, a minimum Medicaid patient volume of 20 percent; or
  - A minimum of 30 percent patient volume attributed to needy individuals (in FQHC or RHC only)

### Special Exceptions for Medicaid EPs

- Medicaid EPs may obtain an incentive in the first year of participation for adopting, implementing, or upgrading a certified EHR
  - Adoption is defined as acquire/install an EHR
  - Implementation is defined as commence utilization
  - Upgrade is defined as upgrading an existing EHR (expanded use)
- The EHR must be certified
- EHR reporting is not required for the first year
- EHR incentive payments are made by the state based on the calendar year
- Incentive payments may begin in 2011
- EPs can only receive one incentive payment per year with a maximum participation of six years
- A maximum incentive amount of \$63,750 is available over a six-year period
- Incentive payments will not be made after 2021

### Medicaid Incentive Table

	CY 2011	CY 2012	CY 2013	CY 2014	CY 2015	CY 2016
CY 2011	\$21,250					
CY 2012	\$8,500	\$21,250				
CY 2013	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250			
CY 2014	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250		
CY 2015	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250	
CY 2016	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250
CY 2017		\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
CY 2018			\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
CY 2019				\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
CY 2020					\$8,500	\$8,500
CY 2021						\$8,500
TOTAL	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750

## Meaningful Use Requirements

There are three components to Meaningful Use (MU):

- Use a certified EHR in a meaningful way
- Use a certified EHR to exchange health information electronically
- Use certified EHRs to submit clinical quality measures (CQMs) and other such measures selected by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

## Reporting

- States can seek CMS prior approval to require four core MU objectives for their Medicaid providers
- MU reporting for year one is only 90 days of EHR use; each subsequent reporting year equals one full calendar year of reporting
- EPs must report on objectives and CQMs
- Some reporting is yes/no or numerator/denominator attestation for first year; and CQM submitted electronically in years two **For** onward
- For certain measures, 80 percent of patients must have certified EHR records
- EPs must report 15 core objectives
- EPs must submit data on five of 10 menu objectives and include one public health objective
- EPs must report six CQMs
  - Three from a core/alternate core set; and
  - Three from a menu set of 38

## Reporting (cont.)

- Objectives and CQMs do not apply to each provider and will not count against the EP in determining incentive payments
- There are two types of percentage-based measures:
  - All patients seen during the EHR reporting period
  - All patients and actions taken for patients whose records are kept in a certified EHR

## Helpful Links

CMS official website for EHR incentive programs:

<http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms>

Certification and certified EHRs:

<http://healthit.hhs.gov>

Meaningful use:

[http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt/community/healthit\\_hhs\\_gov\\_meaningful\\_use\\_-\\_providers/2998](http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt/community/healthit_hhs_gov_meaningful_use_-_providers/2998)

